

Williamsburg
(Home of Manye Banachi) (Many Hse.)
821 Main St
Natchez, Miss.

H.A.B.S. No. Miss-55

HABS
Miss.
1 - NATCH,
17-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Mississippi.

RECORDED
FOLIO 108...

Historic American Buildings Survey
A. Hays Town, District Officer
Jackson, Miss.

Williamsburg
(Babin House)
(MRS. MARY BANACHIS HOME)
Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi

Owner (Or Custodian)

Mrs. Mamye Banachi

Date of Erection

Prior to 1844

ArchitectBuilderPresent Condition

Good

Number of Stories

One and one half

Materials of Construction

<u>Foundation</u>	Brick
<u>Floors</u>	Wood
<u>Exterior Walls</u>	Frame
<u>Interior Walls</u>	
<u>Roof</u>	Pitched wood shingle Tin gutters; Inside chimneys.

Other Existing Records

The front porch is supported by eight
chamfered colonetts.

Additional Data

Earliest records show this place as having
been owned by George Welden.

TW 8/4/07

Williamsburg (Bahin House)
821 Main Street
Natchez
Adams County
Mississippi

HABS NO. MS-55

Addendum to:
Banachi, Mamye House
821 Main Street
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Adams County
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HABS
MISS,
1-NATCH,
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WILLIAMSBURG (Bahin House)

HA8S No. MS-55

Location: 821 Main Street, Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi.

Present Owner: Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce Davis, 821 Main Street, Natchez, Mississippi 39120. (1975)

Present Use: Dwelling.

Significance: This Federal style cottage possesses an unusual number of regional characteristics, for example, the exterior paneled dado, the fireplace cabinets, the vaulted ceilings, the plan of the open rear porch recessed between two small rooms. Williamsburg was the first home of the Junkins, a politically and economically influential family.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1830-1840.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the structure stands. Reference is made to Natchez County Deed Books. The subject premises are primarily located in the "Jonathan Thompson Lots" and are situated in Section 22, Township 7 North, Range 3 West in the City of Natchez, and were originally part of the "Barland Grant." A portion of said property also lies in the original Williamsburg tract.

1786	May 8, 1786, B/190. Conveys: to William Barland from the Spanish Government. (Confirmation by U.S., December 26, 1946, 5Q/294).
1815	May 31, 1815, H/368. From William Barland to Jonathan Thompson.
1824	December 18, 1824, S/87. From James Williams, Administrator of the estate of J. Thompson to Robert Bradley, Lot #63.
1825	January 8, 1825, O/354. From James Williams, Administrator, to James Moore, Lots #64 and 65.
1830	May 7, 1830, S/128. Robert Bradley to John Baynton, Lot #63.

1830 February 27, 1830, S/459. W. Mercer and A. Merrill, Executors of the will of J. Moore to John Baynton, Lot #64.

Note: The subject house lies primarily in Lot #63; however, 3.75' of the western side of the house lies in Lot #62.

1840 January 30, 1840, BB/411. Mortgage. John Baynton to Charles Abercrombie, Lots #62, 63, and 64.

1840 April 30, 1840, BB/570. This deed of trust authorized Abercrombie to take immediate possession and control of all the lands... and other property described in the above mortgage, and to dispose of same to pay the debts for which he was security.

Note: There is no subsequent deed from Baynton or Abercrombie to any other person. It appears, however, that the property came into the ownership of Moses and Virginia Lindo. The next reference is to the sheriff's sale of the property pursuant to the suit of Charles Abercrombie vs. Virginia C. Lindo, George I. Dicks, and F. A. W. Davis.

1844 December 2, 1844, EE/505. Samuel B. Newman, Sheriff to George Weldon. Said property is described exactly as the property conveyed from Baynton in BB/570 (above), and further recited "with the appurtenances as the lands and tenements of the above named defendant, Virginia C. Lindo."

1847 November 13, 1847, GG/118. From George Weldon to Thomas Weldon.

1856 July 25, 1856, LL/82. From George and Thomas Weldon to William Weldon.

1856 December 15, 1856, LL/179. From George, Thomas and William Weldon to Indian Stewart.

1859 February 1, 1859, MM/166. From John and Indian Stewart to James Junkin.

Note: James Junkin sold Lot #62 excepting the easterly 3.75' whereon the house stood. The western wall of the house was the boundary line.

1890 March 29, 1890, Estate Cause 1067, Box 222. James Junkin, who died intestate, to his wife, Sarah.

- 1898 November 19, 1898, Estate Cause 1525, Box 234, Will Book 5/218. Sarah Junkin to her daughter Katie A. Junkin Cordill.
- 1931 April 1, 1931, 4P/487. Katie Cordill to Miss Mamie Bahin.
- 1939 November 15, 1939, 4Y/325. Miss Mamie Bahin to Mrs. Annie G. Barnum.
- 1947 May 5, 1947, 5U/144. Miss Annie G. Barnum to Lucien C. Gwin.
- 1966 January 12, 1966, 10-1/553. Lucien C. Gwin to Miss Edith Mahier.
- 1970 February 27, 1970, 11-N/409. William H. H. Mahier, John F. Mahier, Selena M. Rayne, and Frances M. Brandon, heirs of Edith Mahier, to Roger Bruce Davis and Eleanor Diane Davis.

Note: This abstract of title was compiled by R. Bruce Davis in November 1973.

4. Original plans and construction: The floor plan consists of a front gallery, two large front doors, and a back gallery enclosed on each end to form small flanking rooms. A large chimney rises between the two front rooms, the left (or west) of which contains an open stair. The second floor houses two rooms with vaulted ceilings which are lit by dormers.
5. Alterations and additions: Alterations to the house have primarily taken the form of additions to the rear and have affected only slightly the original front portion of the house. The earliest addition, ca. 1850, enclosed and extended the back porch and added a small room and closet at the back corner. A kitchen, a breakfast room, and a bedroom were attached to the rear ca. 1925. In 1962 a family room was added on a lower level at the very back of the house.

B. Historical Context:

Williamsburg was built between 1830 and 1840 by John Baynton. Baynton was engaged in land speculation as a member of the firm of Griffith and Baynton and sold stock in the Planter's Bank as one of seven superintendents appointed to do so. After suffering financial losses in the panic of 1837, he and his wife moved to Philadelphia. Later in the nineteenth century, the house assumed a significant place in local history as the first home of a member of the Junkin family. James Junkin, a native of Ireland, bought the house in 1859. As he acquired wealth, Junkin brought other members of the

family to Natchez. The Junkin family has been influential in the economic and political life of the area and includes among its members, John R. Junkin, recently retired speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Williamsburg is an excellent example of the Federal style cottage of the Natchez region. Characteristics of the region include the exterior paneled dado, the vaulted ceilings and the recessed porch of the rear elevation.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The basic rectangle of the one and one-half story house measures 38' by 61'. It has four bays.
2. Foundations: The foundations are brick.
3. Walls: The walls are of frame construction with flush siding, and a paneled dado runs across the main facade. The rear and side elevations are of clapboards.
4. Structural system, framing: The wood frame building is mortised and tenoned.
5. Porches: A seven bay porch extends over the full width of the facade and is supported by eight posts with lamb's tongue chamfering. The recessed porch on the rear elevations has been enclosed.
6. Chimney: One square chimney is located in the center of the building.
7. Openings: There are two doorways located on the facade, each featuring Federal transoms and doors with six flush panels. The windows feature nine over six flazing and have louvered blinds.
8. Roof: The gabled roof is covered with slate. The cornice is completely unadorned while the extensive overhanging eave forms the covering of the front porch. The two dormers are decorated by a dentil cornice at the eaves, the raking edges and returns. Beneath the returns are plain friezes, molded architraves, and molded pilasters which flank window openings with semi-circular heads. Each window opening contains a nine-light, rectangular sash set beneath a fixed light with interlacing, curved mutins.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The first floor was originally U-shaped with a porch recessed between two small rooms. Two large rooms, each 19' square are located in the front of the house and share a large central chimney. From the parlor (west front room) a stair winds to the second floor. Additions have been made to the rear. Two bedrooms are located on the second floor above the two first floor rooms, and similarly share the central chimney.
2. Stairway: In the northwest corner of the west front room, the parlor, an open stairway with rectangular-section balusters, swelling, columnar newels, and scrolled stringer brackets, makes a quarter turn as it rises to the second floor.
3. Flooring: Pine.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls are finished in plaster with chair rails and baseboards in wood.
5. Doorways and doors: Doorways are treated with architraves consisting of a bead, a double fascia, and a narrow backband. Doors are paneled and are flush.
6. Decorative features: The mantels are Federal in style and have full entablatures supported by flanking molded pilasters or by Doric engaged columns. The mantels are decorated with fluted, oval and circular paterae.

D. Site:

Williamsburg is set directly onto the sidewalk on the edge of a bayou which once marked the east end of Main Street.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Mississippi Department of Archives and History. National Register File. Adams County. Williamsburg.

Claiborne, John F. H., Mississippi as a Providence, Territory and State, 1880 Reprint. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press.

The Natchez: 20 March 1830.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project coordinated by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Elbert Hilliard, Director: data compiled by William C. Allen, Architectural Historian, April 1975.

Edited by Marion K. Schlefer, Historic American Buildings Survey, Washington, D.C., 1985.